



CITY OF
TUCSON



Ready to Protect,
Proud to Serve

NEWS RELEASE

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Chief of Police

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Date: 1/23/2012
TDD: 791-2639

FATAL COLLISION EAST VALENCIA ROAD AND SOUTH COUNTRY CLUB ROAD

On January 22, 2011 at approximately 6:50 p.m., the Tucson Fire Department notified the Tucson Police Department that they were responding to a serious injury collision at East Valencia Road and South Country Club Road. Officers from Operations Division South arrived on scene approximately two minutes later and found a motorcyclist suffering from apparently life-threatening injuries. He was transported by ambulance to a local trauma center, where he succumbed to his injuries a short time later. He has been identified as **54-year old Jorge H. Gonzalez**. Next of kin have been notified.

Officers quickly determined that the driver of the other vehicle involved, a 2001 BMW X3 sports utility vehicle, fled from the scene on foot immediately after the collision. An extensive search was launched, involving numerous officers, including multiple K9 teams from the Service Dog Unit as well as the Air Support Unit. Ultimately, the suspect was not immediately located.

The Traffic Investigations Unit responded to the scene to continue the investigation. Detectives examined and collected roadway evidence and interviewed witnesses. Detectives have determined that Gonzalez was riding a 1999 Harley Davidson Softail Classic motorcycle eastbound in the middle lane of Valencia, crossing Country Club on a yellow traffic light. The BMW was traveling westbound on Valencia and the driver made a left turn at Country Club, striking the motorcycle. Gonzalez was not wearing a helmet.

The investigation is ongoing as detectives attempt to identify and locate the suspect, described as a **possibly Hispanic male**.

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For accommodations; materials in accessible formats; foreign language interpreters; and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact the Tucson Police Department Public Information Office at (520) 791-4852 or (520) 791-2639 for TDD at least five (5) business days in advance. Para arreglos; materiales en formatos accesibles; interpretes de idioma extranjero; y/o materiales en otro idioma que no sea inglés, por favor comunicarse al Departamento de la Policía de Tucson a la sección de Información Pública al (520) 791-4852 o (520) 791-2639 para TDD por lo menos con cinco (5) días hábiles de anticipación.

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The Tucson Police Department urges anyone with information about this collision to contact **911** or **88-CRIME**.

Fatalities year to date:

For 2011 – 1

1 Pedestrian
0 Bicycle
0 Motorcycle

For 2012 – 4

0 Pedestrian
0 Bicycle
2 Motorcycle

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